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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: Darst, et al.

Serial No.: 09/782,714

Filed: February 13, 2001

For: *A Crystal of Bacterial Core RNA Polymerase*

Examiner: Borin, Michael L.

Group Art Unit: 1631

Docket No.: IPT-011.02  
(23298-01102)

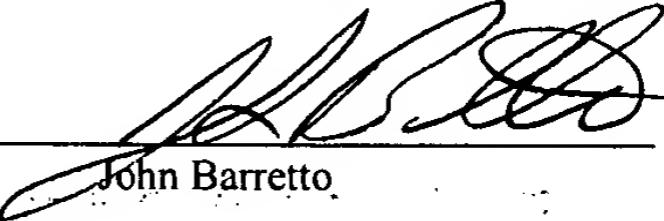
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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Dear Examiner Borin:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 26, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully submit this Amendment and Response. The deadline for filing this response has been extended by the accompanying petition for a one-month extension of time and associated fee. A Notice of Appeal and the associated fee is also submitted herewith.

Please amend the claims of the subject application as indicated herein.